

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 05095 170114Z

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 ARA-10 EA-09

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 /099 W

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O 170014Z OCT 75

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2980

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS USUN 5095

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UN, SS, MO

SUBJECT: SPANISH SAHARA

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PRESS RELEASE OF OCTOBER 16
FROM MOROCCAN MISSION TO UN:

QUOTE:

AFTER THE PUBLICATION, THIS MORNING, OF THE ADVISORY OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE CONCERNING THE TERRITORIAL DISPUTE
BETWEEN MOROCCO AND SPAIN, THE SPOKESMAN OF THE MOROCCAN MISSION TO
THE UNITED NATIONS COMMUNICATES:

THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE HAS ESTABLISHED THE LEGITIMACY OF
THE MOROCCAN DEMANDS:

1) BY REJECTING THE SPANISH THESIS CONCERNING THE INCOMPETENCE OF
THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE, IT RECOGNIZES THE EXISTENCE OF A
CONFLICT OF LEGAL NATURE BETWEEN MOROCCO AND SPAIN.

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PAGE 02 USUN N 05095 170114Z

2) BY RECOGNIZING THAT THE TERRITORY OF THE SAHARA WAS NOT "TERRA NULLIUS".

3) BY RECOGNIZING THE EXISTENCE OF LEGAL TIES AS WELL AS ALLEGIANCE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO AND THE SAHARA. AS A CONCLUSION, THE OPINION OF THE COURT CAN ONLY MEAN ONE THING: THE SO CALLED WESTERN SAHARA WAS A PART OF MOROCCAN TERRITORY OVER WHICH THE SOVEREIGNTY WAS EXERCISED BY THE KINGS OF MOROCCO AND THAT THE POPULATION OF THIS TERRITORY CONSIDERED THEMSELVES AND WERE CONSIDERED TO BE MOROCCANS.

MOROCCO, THEREFORE, FINDS IT LEGITIMATE DEMANDS CONFIRMED BY THE ICJ, AND SEES AS A CONSEQUENCE THAT NO OTHER CONSIDERATION COULD ALTER THE COURT'S CONCLUSION.

MOROCCO CONSIDERS THAT HER TERRITORIAL CONFLICT WITH SPAIN, HAS BEEN DECIDED ON, UNEQUIVOCALLY AND WITHOUT ANY AMBIGUITY. AS A RESULT,

NO OTHER CONCLUSION OF DEBATES BEARING POLITICAL CHARACTER AND NOT MOTIVATED BY THE RIGOROUS RESPECT OF RIGHTS, CAN CHANGE THE SPIRIT OF THE CONCLUSIONS THAT THE ICJ HAS JUST COMMUNICATED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

TODAY, MOROCCAN DEMANDS HAVE BEEN RECOGNIZED BY THE LEGAL ADVISORY ORGAN OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

HOWEVER, IT BELONGS TO MOROCCO TO DRAW THE IMPERATIVE CONCLUSIONS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, PRESS RELEASES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, COURT DECISIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975USUNN05095
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750359-0986
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751045/aaaabnzm.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 NOV 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 NOV 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <15 JAN 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SPANISH SAHARA
TAGS: PFOR, SS, MO, UN, ICJ
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006